

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INR-07 DODE-00 /024 W
----- 075923

R 101519Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4255
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION USBERLIN
INFO CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 18355

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: GW, GE, MARR, PFOR
SUBJECT: AUTUMN FORGE 76 - PARTICIPATION OF A US
MARINE AMPHIBIOUS BRIGADE

REF: USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN 2109 DTG 041400Z NOV 75
(NOTAL)

1. US DAO BONN IS ONE ADDRESSEE OF REFTTEL FROM USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN WHICH PROPOSES THAT A US MARINE AMPHIBIOUS BRIGADE PARTICIPATE IN A MILITARY EXERCISE TO BE HELD IN NORTHERN GERMANY DURING THE LAST HALF OF OCT. 76. THE PREFERRED AREA IS ON THE BALTIC SEA 25 MILES FROM THE GDR LAND FRONTIER AND SOME 25 MILES DUE EAST OF KIEL. THE MARINE AMPHIBIOUS BRIGADE WOULD BE SUPPORTED BY 12 SHIPS. THE EXERCISE WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT, HOWEVER, BE LARGE ENOUGH TO REQUIRE NOTIFICATION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF CSCE.

2. THE GERMAN FEDERAL MINISTRY OF DEFENSE HAS ALREADY AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO THE EXERCISE, BUT NOT AS YET TO THE LOCATION. THE CINCEUR MESSAGE RECOGNIZES THAT CARRYING OUT SUCH AN EXERCISE IN THAT PARTICULAR AREA RAISES QUESTIONS AND ASKS THAT IT BE ADVISED OF ANY SENSITIVITIES. EMBASSY BONN DOES NOT FEEL THAT WE ARE IN THE BEST POSITION TO COMMENT ABOUT THIS ISSUE BUT WE NOTE THAT IT COULD RAISE SOME QUESTIONS.

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ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE INVITED TO SEND ANY VIEWS WHICH

THEY MIGHT WISH TO RECORD TO CINC USAREUR AND TO
EMBASSY BONN.

BEGIN TEXT:

SUBJ: AUTUMN FORGE 76 - US MARINE AMPHIBIOUS BRIGADE
(MAB) (U)

- A. JCS 102107Z JUN 75 (C) (NOTAL)
- B. CINCENT 281053Z JUL 75 (C) (NOTAL)
- C. MOD GERMANY ARMED FORCES 191215Z AUG 75 (C) (NOTAL)
- D. MOD GERMANY ARMED FORCES 261430Z AUG 75 (C) (NOTAL)

1. (C) REF A REQUESTED THAT THIS HEADQUARTERS CON-
SIDER FOR PARTICIPATION IN AUTUMN FORGE/COLDFIRE 76,
THOSE LANTFLT NAVY AND MARINE CORPS FORCES (MAB) THAT
ARE SCHEDULED FOR NORTHERN NORWAY EXERCISE TEAMWORK
76. REF B REQUESTED THAT MOD GE PERMIT MAB TO EXERCISE
WITH DIVISION OF ANOTHER NATION WITHIN NORTHAG AREA
(PREFERABLY IN NORTHERN PART) DURING LAST HALF OCT 76.
ADDITIONALLY, REF B REQUESTED VARIOUS MODS TO PROVIDE
INFO ON BEACH AREAS WHICH MIGHT ACCOMMODATE MAB
SIZE AMPHIB ASSAULT. REF C AGREED TO MAB EXERCISE
WITH DIVISION OF ANOTHER NATION WITHIN THE NORTHAG
AREA DURING LAST HALF OCT 76. REF D SUGGESTED BEACH
AREA VICINITY WILHELMSHAVEN FOR MAB AMPHIBIOUS LANDING.

2. (C) EARLY OCT RECON OF BEACH AREA SUGGESTED REF
D, AS WELL AS NUMEROUS OTHER BEACHES NW GERMANY, WAS
CONDUCTED BY REPS CINCGERFLT, USCINCEUR, 4TH MAB AND

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INR-07 DODE-00 /024 W

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R 101519Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 18355

PHIBRON TWO. NONE OF THE AREAS OBSERVED ARE ADEQUATE TO SUPPORT MAB SIZE AMPHIB OPERATION. ON ADVICE CINCGERFLT REPS, PUTLOS TRAINING AREA NE GERMAN COAST WAS ALSO VISITED. LOCATED ON WAGRIEN KASERNE, THIS AREA OFFERS POTENTIAL FOR MAB SIZE AMPHIB OPNS.

3. (C) GENERAL EXERCISE SCENARIO FOR MAB WOULD BE TO CONDUCT AMPHIB/HELO OPNS (PREFERABLY OPPOSED) IN PUTLOS AREA FOR 3-5 DAY PERIOD. OPNS WOULD INCLUDE CLOSE AIR SUPPORT PROVIDED BY MAB FIGHTER/BOMBER ASSETS LOCATED AT INLAND BED DOWN AREA. TENTATIVE NAVAL AMPHIB FORCES SUPPORTING MAB CONSIST OF 12 SHIPS INCL LPH CARRYING MARINE ASSAULT HELOS. FOLLOWING AMPHIB PHASE, MAB WOULD MOVE TO INLAND EXERCISE AREA, SUCH AS MUNSTER NORD, AND CONDUCT FTX WITH FORCES OF ANOTHER NATION FOR 6 TO 8 DAYS.

4. (C) FOR MOD BONN: REQUEST ADVISE AVAILABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF PUTLOS AND MUNSTER NORD TRAINING AREAS FOR USE BY MAB LAST HALF OCT 76.

5. (C) FOR ALL: REQUEST PROVIDE COMMENTS AS TO FEASIBILITY ABOVE OPNS. IN PARTICULAR, REQUEST ADVISE ANY SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED WITH
(1) TRANSIT OF FORCES THIS SIZE INTO BALTIC APPROACHES,
(2) MAB SIZE GROUND OPNS IN PROXIMITY GDR BORDER,
(3) AIR OPNS/AIR SPACE RESTRICTIONS IN PROXIMITY GDR
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BORDER.

6. (U) REQUEST RESPONSE BY 12 NOV 75. POINT OF CONTACT HQ USEUCOM LTCOL A. J. KETTERING, USMC, AUTOVON 432 OR 428, EXTENSION 6-6160 OR 6-6161. END TEXT.
HILLENBRAND

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